

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY LOME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9711

INFO USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 334

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L L O M E 2 1 0 6

PARIS FOR MELONE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, TO

SUBJECT: TOGO AND KOREAN QUESTION IN UN

REF: A. STATE 225930

B. LOME 2080

1. SUMMARY: I PRESENTED USG POSITION ON KOREAN QUESTION TO GOT FONMIN HUNLEDE TODAY. LONG DISCUSSION ENSUED IN WHICH HUNLEDE STRESSED GOT'S AVERSION TO "DIVIDED COUNTRIES" AND BELIEF PEOPLES IN SUCH COUNTRIES SHOULD BE LEFT TO SETTLE THEIR OWN PROBLEM. FONMIN REPEATED GOT POSITION CORRESPONDING TO THAT OF NORTH KOREA THAT ALL FOREIGN TROOPS MUST BE WITHDRAWN FROM SOUTH KOREA BEFORE THERE CAN BE REDUCTION IN TENSION. HE MENTIONED POSSIBILITY
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TWO KOREAS MIGHT BE APPROACHING "DETENTE," BUT ADMITTED THERE HAD BEEN NO REAL NEGOTIATIONS. GOT IS COSPONSOR OF UNFRIENDLY RESOLUTION, AND WE CANNOT COUNT ON ITS COOPERATION. NEVERTHELESS, HUNLEDE SAID GOT WOULD EXAMINE ANY "NEW ELEMENTS" IN UN DEBATE. END SUMMARY.

2. I CALLED ON GOT FONMIN HUNLEDE THIS MORNING AND LEFT AIDE-MEMOIRE ON KOREAN QUESTION AND COPY IN ENGLISH OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S

SEPTEMBER 22 SPEECH BEFORE UNGA, PROMISING FRENCH TEXT OF SPEECH AS SOON AS RECEIVED. HUNLEDE DEPARTS FOR UNGA ON SEPTEMBER 29.

3. I EMPHASIZED AT OUTSET OF MY PRESENTATION THAT KOREAN ISSUE WAS MOST VITAL CONCERN FOR US NATIONAL INTERESTS IN 30TH UNGA& I DID NOT RPT NOT RUALIFY MY PRESENTATION TO HUNLEDE IN ANY SENSE TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF GOT'S COSPONSORSHIP OF UNFRIENDLY KOREAN RESOLUTION AND ITS BREAK IN RELATIONS WITH SOUTH KOREA LAST FALL. I FULLY COVERED ALL TALKING POINTS IN REF A, PUNCTUATING THEM WHERE APPROPRIATE WITH REFERENCE TO GRAVITY OF USG CONCERN, AND AT END SAID I COULD NOT STRESS TOO STRONGLY SIGNIFICANCE USG ATTACHES TO COOPERATION OF OTHER GOVERNMENTS ON THIS QUESTION IN INTEREST OF CONTINUING GOOD BILATERAL RELATIONS.

4. THIRTY-MINUTE DISCUSSION ENSUED DURING WHICH HUNLEDE REITERATED GOT POSITION AND RATIONALE FOR IT. HIS PRINCIPAL ARGUMENT WAS THAT TOGO, ITSELF A DIVIDED COUNTRY, BELIEVED ALL DIVIDED "PEOPLES" SHOULD SEEK THEIR OWN BEST MEANS TOWARD REUNIFICATION. HE SAID GOT, AS MATTER OF POLICY, DOES NOT MAINTAIN RELATIONS WITH BOTH GOVERNMENTS OF ANY DIVIDED NATION. THUS, IT HAS RELATIONS WITH FED REP OF GERMANY AND NOT WITH EAST GERMANY -- AND HAD TOLD MADAME BINH AND NORTH VIETNAMESE IN THE PAST THAT IT WOULD MAINTAIN RELATIONS WITH SOUTH VIETNAM. IN CASE OF KOREA, ROK HAD HANDLED ITSELF BADLY IN TOGO AND HAD NOT SENT AMBASSADOR TO RESIDE HERE (ROK AMBASSADOR WAS RESIDENT IN ABIDJAN, ALTHOUGH AN ACTIVE AND PERSONABLE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES REPRESENTED HIM IN TOGO). AN ROK AMBASSADOR, HUNLEDE SAID, COULD HAVE PROVIDED COMPETITION TO NORTH KOREANS. INSTEAD -- WELL, USG KNEW GOT'S RELATIONSHIP WITH NORTH KOREA. I REPLIED WE CERTAINLY DID KNOW, IF ONLY BECUASE WE READ "TOGO-PRESSE" EVERY DAY.

5. HUNLEDE THEN SAID GOT THOUGHT TWO KOREAS HAD REACHED STAGE
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OF "DETENTE" WHICH, IF THEY WERE LEFT ALONE, WOULD LEAD THEM TO SETTLE PROBLEM THEMSELVES. HE DID AGREE, HOWEVER, THAT DISUCSSION BETWEEN TWO KOREAS HAD NEVER REALLY GOT UNDERWAY. HIS COMMENT ON THIS WAS THAT PRESENCE OF FOREIGN TROOPS, FROM NORTH KOREAN VIEWPOINT, INHIBITED DISCUSSION. GOT, TOO, TOOK THIS POSITION. REFERRING TO POINT MADE IN MY PRESENTATION ABOUT NORTH KOREA'S

DEFENSE ARRANGEMENTS WITH PRC AND USSR, I ASKED WHETHER GOT CALLED FOR WITHDRAWAL OF ALL FOREIGN TROOPS FROM KOREAN PENINSULA, OR ONLY FROM SOUTH KOREA, HUNLEDE REPLIED CATEGORICALLY THAT NORTH KOREA HAD ASSURED GOT THERE WERE NO FOREIGN TROOPS ON ITS TERRITORY. HE THEN SAID, RATHER FOOLISHLY I THOUGHT, THAT HE PERSONALLY HAD ONLY VISITED NORTH KOREA, WHERE HE HAD SEEN NO FOREIGN TROOPS. AMERICAN TROOP PRESENCE IN SOUTH KOREA, ON OTHER HAND, WAS WELL KNOWN BECAUSE IT WAS HIGHLY VISIBLE. REMINDING HIM THAT HE EARLIER HAD SAID GOT DID "NOT OPPOSE" RIGHT OF SOVEREIGN POWERS TO ENTER INTO BILATERAL TREATIES, I REMINDED HUNLEDE OUR TROOPS WERE IN SOUTH KOREA UNDER TERMS OF BILATERAL TREATY AND WOULD REMAIN THERE AS LONG AS THEY WERE INVITED OR NEEDED.

6. HUNLEDE AT ONE POINT IN OUR CONVERSATION SAID NEITHER HE NOR PRESIDENT EYADEMA WAS COMMUNIST AND THAT IDEOLOGY DID NOT FORM GOT POLICY. NEVERTHELESS, GOT SUPPORTED REUNIFICATION OF DIVIDED COUNTRIES. NORTH KOREA BELIEVED THAT, IF TWO KOREAS WERE ADMITTED TO UN, REUNIFICATION WOULD NEVER TAKE PLACE.

7. FINALLY, I STRESSED THAT ROK WAS ESSENTIAL PARTICIPANT IN ANY CONFERENCE RE KOREAN PENINSULA SECURITY AND THAT NEGOTIATIONS BY PARTIES CONCERNED, INCLUDING ROK AND NORTH KOREA, WERE DESIRABLE TO BRING TO LIGHT EVERY POSSIBILITY FOR REDUCTION OF TENSION AND MAINTENANCE OF ARMISTICE. HUNLEDE, FOR FIRST TIME, THEN SAID GOT WOULD HAVE TO SEE WHAT "NEW ELEMENTS" MIGHT BE INTRODUCED IN UNGA DEBATE.

8. COMMENT: I AM NOT CONFIDENT WE WILL GET ANY COOPERATION FROM GOT ON KOREAN ISSUE, ESPECIALLY SINCE ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH NORTH KOREA IS ONE OF CLOSEST ENJOYED BY LATTER ON AFRICAN CONTINENT. NEVERTHELESS, HUNLEDE WAS EVER SO SLIGHTLY ENCOURAGING WITH HIS FINAL COMMENT REPORTED PARA 7 ABOVE.
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